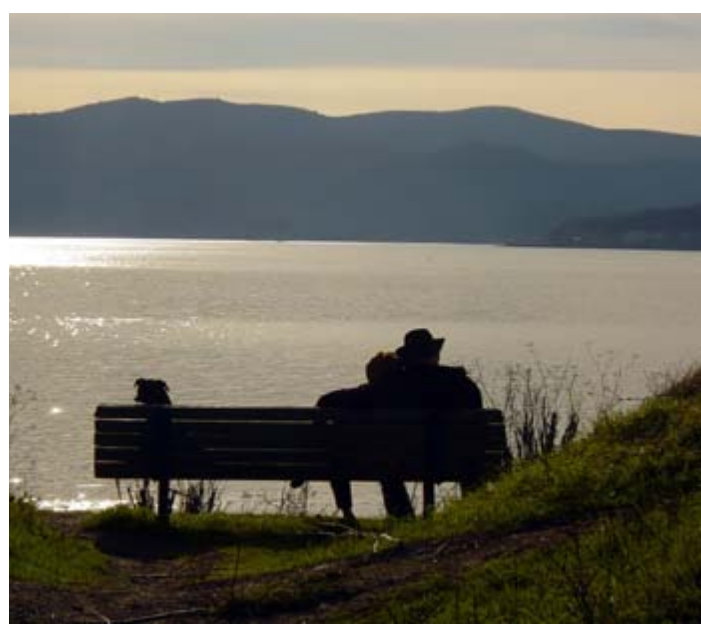
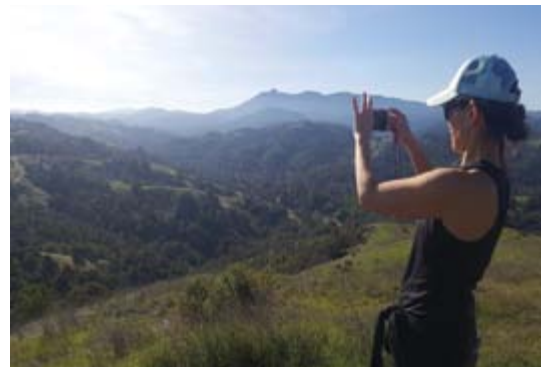




Protecting Marin Since 1934

Annual Report 2018

Preserve • Protect • Enhance



Dear Members and Friends,

I am proud to share MCL's accomplishments and fiscal health for 2018 with you, our members, and with the Marin community, as we continue to carry out our mission to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural assets of Marin County.

In preparing this report for 2018, we reviewed all of the year's efforts. The breadth of accomplishments in 2018 was substantial and speaks to the diligence and expertise of the MCL board, our committees, members, and partners. This report highlights some of these accomplishments.

The bulk of work was devoted to fulfilling MCL's traditional role as an advocate for the environment. We were able to influence many public decisions through letters and public testimony and by participating actively in community committees and commissions. And as we advocated, so did we educate – to better inform ourselves and the Marin community of new directions and diverse facets of the environment. To this end, our committee meetings were designed to inform as well as develop positions; our long-established Breakfast forums continued to broaden our environmental horizons and keep abreast of environmental politics; and our highly-praised Newsletter provided local environmental news and in-depth reporting.

MCL did not do its work alone – our effectiveness lies in collaboration with

other non-profit organizations, public agencies and officials, legislators, and with our members and friends. I was reminded of these partnerships at my goddaughter's recent graduation from Cowell College, UC Santa Cruz, whose motto is: "The pursuit of truth in the company of friends."

Similarly, with our network of friends and colleagues, MCL in 2018 continued to be strengthened by diverse ideas, expertise, and passion in pursuing a common goal – conserving the natural resources of our county and the larger world. And we had fun along the way – volunteering to plant willows and pull broom in the field, and in sharing social events with you, our supporters.

While MCL enjoyed successes in 2018, we remained attentive to changing environmental conditions. Climate action continued to be a top priority, as evidences of a changing climate became more dire. Last fall, as wildfire became a top priority in Marin, we recognized the need to integrate environmental values into fire preparedness, leading to the formation of a Fire + Environment Working Group. MCL's other committees continued to cover the myriad environmental issues that arise every day in both public open space and our communities.



Last year was our 84th year of advocating for Marin's environment. We thank you for steadfastly supporting and encouraging us, and invite you to join us at educational events, issue committee meetings, which are always open, and at public forums . . . and always at our social events! MCL remains focused on accomplishing its mission in partnership with the Marin Community. We invite your questions and support for our work.

With warm regards and sincere gratitude,

Linda J. Novy

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- Linda J. Novy, President
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- Bob Miller, Secretary
- Kenneth Drexler, Treasurer

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Holly Smith
Office & Events Manager

Kirsten Nolan
Communications Coordinator

It is MCL's committees and volunteers...

... who do the main work of the organization, supported by an exceptional staff and by **you, our members!**

Throughout 2018, MCL's committees continued to fulfill MCL's mission – whether by responding to MCL's traditional areas of environmental concern such as land use, transportation, water and watersheds, and public parks and open space – or furthering MCL's alliance with the West Marin agricultural community – or tending to immediate threats such as wildfire risk in our communities and invasive plant species on public lands – or tackling the multifaceted short and long-term solutions to curbing climate change.

MCL drew on more than one strategy to do its work, often in combination, by **advocating** for public decisions based on environmental values, **educating** MCL members and the larger public in diverse aspects of the environment that warrant attention, **collaborating** with other non-profits, volunteers, and public agencies to do the work – always with the objective of **conserving natural resources**.

Along the way, we enjoyed socializing with you!

The accomplishments summarized below – gleaned from our 84th year of protecting Marin's environment – illustrate how these strategies played out in our work:

Advocacy

Advocating for the environment has been MCL's primary strategy since Day One ...

Submitted comments on alternatives and scope of the EIS for the Point Reyes National Seashore General Management Plan Amendment, focusing on the benefits of managing historic cattle and



dairy ranching while preserving the park's environmental and cultural resources.

Urged the California Department of Food and Agriculture to support Marin County dairies' application for grant assistance from the "Alternative Manure Management Program" to reduce methane and other GHG emissions from dairy operations.

Opposed Resolution E-4907 of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), which could slow the process of forming Community Choice Aggregations (CCAs) for up to two years.

Studied allocation and expenditure proposals before endorsing the early renewal of Transportation Authority of Marin's (TAM) Measure A tax on the November 2018 ballot, and urged TAM to include funds to expand electric vehicle adoption and invest in public charging station infrastructure.

Recommended certification of the Final EIR for Ross Valley's "San Anselmo Flood Risk Reduction Project" and approval of the preferred alternative.

Supported the FAA's recommendation for 300 ft. runway extension at Gness Field, but not a 1,100 ft. extension that would impact wetlands.

Submitted comments to San Rafael Community Development Agency on the scope of the EIR for the San Rafael (Bettini) Transit Center Relocation project.

Endorsed Prop 68, the \$4.1 billion Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 bond measure for the June ballot, and submitted an op-ed to Marin Voice urging support.



Education

Intelligent advocacy depends on being well informed ...

Hosted three Business-Environment Breakfasts, featuring speakers on diverse topics: "ReScape - Cultivating a New Landscape Aesthetic: Preparing for Fire & Drought"; "From Wasteshed to Watershed: Reducing Marin's Wasteline and Protecting the Bay (from waste); and "State Parks in Marin; Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow."

With expertise provided from former president of the CPUC, sponsored a panel discussion between Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Defense Fund, and Clean Coalition on the pros and cons of regionalizing the western energy grid.

Provided a quarterly forum for education on varied environmental topics that both enrich and challenge West Marin's agricultural community, including:

- European influences on West Marin ranch conditions, and changing geomorphology and hydrology in Walker Creek watershed;
- Connections of fish and wildlife of West Marin between agricultural and public lands, including deer population size and composition, enforcement of California wildlife and game regulations, global pollinator decline and recovery, status of birds on West Marin ranches, agricultural practices to support wildlife, salmonid spawning surveys in

Lagunitas and Walker Creeks, and Resource Conservation District's role in restoring fisheries; and

- Regulation impacts on water quality in West Marin from grazing and dairy operations, waterborne pathogens in the runoff from working landscapes, and State alternatives to manure management, in regard to West Marin dairy operations.

☞ Presented a discussion on zero emission buildings and infrastructure with author of The New Carbon Architecture and Sustainability Planner for County of Marin, including latest ideas for transitioning to more energy efficient buildings, switching from fossil to electric fuel, and revising building codes.

☞ Presented speakers on current water and wastewater topics, including today's Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the Water Fix proposal, and managing vegetation for wildfire prevention and biodiversity on MMWD watershed lands.

☞ Tracked results and follow-up of the County's C-SMART and BayWAVE programs' assessments of shoreline and oceanfront assets vulnerable to sea level rise.

☞ Published five issues of the MCL Newsletter, covering a wide variety of environmental issues and MCL's responses to them.

Collaboration

The effectiveness of advocacy is multiplied by collaborating with others. . .

☞ Co-sponsored two film screenings: the movie "Dirt Rich," with City of Novato, Sustainable Novato, College of Marin, and Indian Valley Organic Farms & Garden; and the film "Rebels with a Cause," with City of Novato and Sustainable Novato, and the Environmental Forum of Marin.

☞ Collaborated with Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC)



and Marin Horse Council (MHC) in Trail Partners' "Slow and Say Hello" campaign to encourage safe and courteous sharing of trails and protection of plants and wildlife on public lands; Presented the campaign at the annual State-wide Trails & Greenways Conference.

☞ Served as a sounding board for and participated in Drawdown Marin, an ongoing multi-stakeholder County initiative designed to engage the entire community in greenhouse gas reductions.

☞ Worked with other environmental organizations on the fourth update of "Community Marin," an environmental blueprint for the future of the county, first published in 1992.

☞ Joined Marin County Parks volunteer leaders in a broom pull in Cascade Canyon Open Space Preserve.

☞ Collaborated with volunteers from Trout Unlimited in a day of planting willow (sticks) and a follow-up day of irrigating and caring for the budding trees, to stabilize soil in eroding watercourses and holdback sediment from entering Chileno Creek.

Conservation of Natural Resources

MCL's goal of advocacy is always to conserve natural resources. . .

☞ Supported County's proposed acquisition of the San Geronimo Golf Course through a purchase agreement with Trust for Public Lands, and encouraged a public vision process to consider future uses, including habitat restoration and others.

☞ Participated in a quarterly Environmental Roundtable convened by County Parks to study environmental sensitivities in areas of proposed trail work on the County's open space preserves.

☞ Received regular reports on the progress of One Tam conservation sci-

ence and community programs and projects, and attended a one-day summit "Into the Woods" featuring the health of Mt. Tamalpais' forests and woodlands.

☞ Participated in visioning process for the Bothin Marsh Project of Marin County Parks and One Tam that addresses protection of infrastructure and sensitive marsh resources in the face of rising sea levels along the Richardson Bay shoreline.

☞ Sent letter to the State Senate supporting SB 1017, the Sustainable Swordfish & Marine Life Protection Act of 2017, which would restrict use of gill nets to catch swordfish.

Social Events

Advocating for the environment is a great way to bring people together for a common cause. . .

☞ Entertained more than 100 guests at a festive December Holiday Party at MCL Offices.

☞ Hosted MCL's traditional summer Picnic on the Patio for members and guests.

☞ Presented Keynote Speaker Michael Wall, head litigator for Natural Resources Defense Council, and gave awards for significant environmental achievements at MCL's Annual dinner.

☞ Hosted MCL's distinguished Leadership Circle at a luncheon at San Francisco State University's Ocean and Estuary Research Center, on the Tiburon Peninsula, and heard about the grave effects of climate change on ocean resources.



\$1,000 +

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 Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese
 Straus Family Creamery
 Susan and Brian Stompe
 The Spanish Table
 Upper Crust Bakery

Statement of Activities

January 1 to December 31, 2018 (Prepared from MCL Records)

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temp. Restricted</u>	<u>Board Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
	(Operations)	(Projects/Dedict'd)	(Legacy / Land)	
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Support				
Membership	\$78,148			\$78,148
Contributions	\$59,784	\$4,900	\$250	\$64,934
Special Events & Miscellaneous	\$16,257			\$16,257
Total Support	\$154,189	\$4,900	\$250	\$159,339
Revenue				
Interest & Dividend Income	\$29,368		\$39,261	\$68,629
Miscellaneous Income	\$50			\$50
Misc. Revenue	\$29,418	\$0	\$39,261	\$68,679
Transfers				
LOL Support for Operations	\$84,452		(\$84,452)	\$0
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$10,004	(\$10,004)	\$0	\$0
Total Transfers	\$94,456	(\$10,004)	(\$84,452)	\$0
Total Support, Revenue & Transfers	\$278,062	(\$5,104)	(\$44,941)	\$228,017
Expenses				
Program Services	\$230,645			
Management & General	\$27,574			
Fundraising	\$14,416			
Total Expenses	\$272,635	\$0	\$0	\$272,635
Results from Operations	\$5,427	(\$5,104)	(\$44,941)	(\$44,618)
Investment Gain, Realized & Unrealized	(\$36,939)	\$0	(\$136,112)	(\$172,752)
Change in Equity 2018	\$31,212	(\$5,104)	(\$181,054)	(\$217,370)
Total Equity, Year End 2017 (Adjusted per CPA)	\$528,649	\$34,171	\$1,901,458	\$2,464,279
Total Equity, Year End 2018	\$497,437	\$29,067	\$1,720,404	\$2,246,909

A note from the Treasurer

The adjacent Statement of Activities summarizes MCL's 2018 financial results for MCL as a whole and for each of the separate funds maintained by MCL. The figures are from MCL's books and records and are not audited.

MCL has three funds: The Unrestricted Fund supports MCL's day to day operations, environmental advocacy and education programs. The Temporarily Restricted Fund records MCL's management of funds dedicated to specific projects. Finally, the Board Restricted Fund records the income and expenditures of MCL's Legacy of the Land (LOL) endowment. The income from the LOL provides ongoing support for MCL's operations, advocacy and education work.

This year the Unrestricted Fund, despite the support of MCL's members and careful office management, had a loss as a result of year-end declines in MCL's investments. The loss in the Temporarily Restricted Fund shows that more was spent on these projects than was received during the year to support them. The loss in the Legacy of the Land endowment was due to investment declines at the end of 2018. Note: The 2017 year-end equity figures have been adjusted to reflect a correction suggested by MCL's CPA.

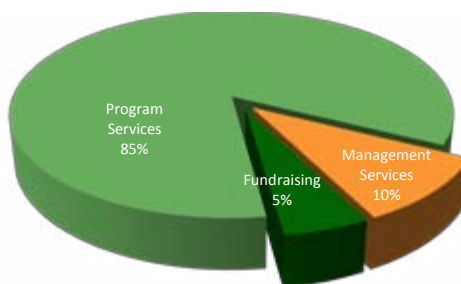
MCL thanks its members for their support in 2018.

Kenneth Drexler

Ken Drexler, Treasurer



2018 Income—Operations



2018 Expenses—Operations

MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE
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We must act today
 if we believe in preserving,
 protecting, and enhancing
 for the future.



MCL mission at a glance...

Marin Conservation League (MCL) works to preserve and protect the natural resource values and assets of Marin, focusing its action on issues of countywide significance or issues which may prove to be precedent-setting.

MCL places particular emphasis on those issues having important land use implications or impacts on Marin's environment and quality of life.

MCL strives for effective solutions through its own advocacy and educational efforts as well as through working in close collaboration with other organizations and the public to address major environmental challenges and concerns in Marin.

MCL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. All donations and dues are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

This Annual Report is printed in Marin on recycled paper with soy ink. Text by Nona Dennis. Design and production by Kirsten Nolan. Photos by Nona Dennis, Kirsten Nolan, Holly Smith.